

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 16336 130558Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 DPW-01 AID-20 DRC-01

/141 W

----- 079397

R 130420Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7028

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 16336

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJ: TRI PHAP - MANEUVER AND COUNTERMANEUVER

THE FOLLOWING AMCONSUL CAN THO MESSAGE REPEATED FOR YOUR
NECESSARY ACTION AND INFO QUOTE

R 120655Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL CAN THO

TO RUMJIR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON 0663

INFO RHMSMVA/USDAO AOSOP-OR SAIGON

RUMMRGA/USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0713

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJECT: TRI PHAP - MANEUVER AND COUNTERMANEUVER

1. SUMMARY: VC ACTIVITY HAS INCREASED SOUTH OF THE VC
CONTROLLED AREA TRI PHAP VILLAGE (VIC XS 0467) (KIEN TUONG)
IN NORTHWESTERN AND CENTRAL DINH TUONG IN RECENT WEEKS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 16336 130558Z

IN RECENT DAYS, MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 7TH DIVISION

HAVE CONCENTRATED IN NORTHERN AND WESTERN DINH TUONG. IN NORTHWESTERN AND CENTRAL DINH TUONG IN RECENT WEEKS. IN RECENT DAYS, MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 7TH DIVISION HAVE CONCENTRATED IN NORTHERN AND WESTERN DINH TUONG. ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE A PRELUDE TO AN ARVN INCURSION INTO TRI PHAP FROM THE SOUTH, OPERATIONS SO FAR APPEAR TO BE DIRECTED AT INTERDICTION OF VC SUPPLY ROUTES AND STRENGTHENING OF GVN OUTPOSTS IN THE AREA. END SUMMARY.

2. VIET CONG MANEUVERS. IN RECENT WEEKS, VC ACTIVITY SOUTH OF TRI PHAP (THE HEART OF VC BASE AREA 470) AND IN CNTRAL DINH TUONG HAS MEASURABLY INCREASED. IN AUGUST, NINE OUTPOSTS IN DINH TUONG SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST OF TRI PHAP WERE OVERRUN OR EVACUATED, EQUIVALENT TO THE NUMBER OVERRUN IN THE PRECEDING SIX MONTHS. THE VC HAVE DEVELOPED NEW SUPPLY ROUTES BOTH IN CENTRAL DINH TUONG AND NORTHWEST OF TRI PHAP ALONG THE KIEN PHONG-KIEN TUONG BORDER. AUGUST WAS ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE MONTHS OF VC ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG SECTOR SINCE CEASEFIRE I, WITH A RECORD NUMBER OF 211 ATTACKS BY FIRE AND 95 GVN KIA.

3. GVN MANEUVERS. MAJOR UNITS OF THE GVN 7TH DIVISION HAVE MOVED INTO NORTHWEST DINH TUONG, SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST OF TRI PHAP IN RECENT DAYS AS FOLLOW:

BNS OF THE 14TH REGIMENT (OF THE 9TH DIVISION BUT PRESENTLY UNDER 7TH DIVISION OPERATIONAL CONTROL) MOVED INTO NORTHEAST CAI BE AND NORHWEST CAI LAY DISTRICTS, SOUTHEAST OF TRI PHAP (EARLY SEPTEMBER).

THE 11TH REGIMENT MOVED NORTH FROM EASTERN KIEN TUONG TO NORTHERN CAI LAY AND KIEN GIANG (SEPTEMBER 7).

THE 10TH REGIMENT REDEPLOYED FROM KIEN TUONG TO DINH TUONG, AND IS NOW CONCENTRATED IN NORTHERN CAI BE DISTRICT JUST SOUTH OF TRI PHAP (SEPTEMBER 10).

THE 7TH DIVISION RECONNAISSANCE UNITS REMAIN TARGETED AGAINST THE KIEN PHONG-KIEN TUONG BORDER VC SUPPLY ROUTE BETWEEN CAMBODIA AND TRI PHAP.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 16336 130558Z

4. COMMENT: THE NEXT FEW DAYS SHOULD REVEAL WHETHER ARVN IS SIMPLY RESPONDING TO INCREASED VC PRESSURE, OR IN FACT PLANS A MAJOR OPERATION INTO TRI PHAP. 7TH DIVISION SOURCES ESTIMATE THAT A SERIOUS INCURSION WOULD REQUIRE FORCES RANGING FROM TWO REGIMENTS TO A DIVISION. A FORCE OF THAT MAGNITUDE IS NOW CONCENTRATED IN THE AREA SOUTH OF TRI PHAP.
LEHMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY VIOLATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON16336
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LEHMANN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730937/aaaabawc.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRI PHAP - MANEUVER AND COUNTERMANEUVER THE FOLLOWING AMCONSUL CAN THO MESSAGE REPEATED FOR YOUR
TAGS: MOPS, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005